

NOVA - What the Rut Rally



Reservation Deadline: As soon as possible **on or after April 10, 2021**

- Event:** NOVA Rally **What the Rut**
Great Smoky Mountains to see the famous Elk Rut
- Dates:** October 10-15, 2021 (Sunday - Friday)
Hoping for prime rut season (none of that warming-up stuff)
- Host/Coordinator:** **Tom Brown** Phone/text: 419-203-1681 tomrbrown1951@gmail.com
Ella Brown Phone/text: 419-203-9574 ellambrown1952@gmail.com
- Description/Theme:** In 2001 Elk were reintroduced to the Great Smoky Mts in the Cataloochee area. Every year they meet up for the rut in what has become a bucket-list annual event!
- Videos we took in 2020 during the rut
[Elk rut - the boys](#)
[The Big Boy's In the Meadow](#)
- RV Park:** **Smokemont Campground in Great Smoky Mts. National Park**
No hook-ups – nice restrooms (no showers)
Cell phone 5 miles away
5 miles from where the Elk gather at Oconaluftee Visitor Center
7 miles from Cherokee, NC
- RV Park Website:** <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/smokemont-campground.htm>
- RV Park Phone:** 828-497-9270
- Reservations:** Call to make your **reservation beginning April 10 (for Oct 10 arrival.) Then be sure to let Tom or Ella know (phone, email, or text)** you plan to attend so we can add you to the contact list to send plans as they develop.
- As soon as we make our reservation, we will post our site # on this page hoping that others can gather in the same area.
- Payment:** Camping fees are on your own when you make your reservation.
- Rally and Other Fees:** There may be fees for activities you choose to do.
- Reservation Deadline:** As soon as possible **on or after April 10** – The campground will be filling up due to leaf-peeping and the rut.

Tentative Itinerary

Things to do in the area:

Daily visits to various Elk Rut viewing points

Blue Ridge Parkway is just minutes away

Newfound Gap and Clingman's Dome under 30 miles away

Cherokee Indian Museum and exhibits

Outdoor play: *Unto These Hills*

Lots of hiking trails (waterfalls!)

Bryson City – quaint, historic town with Great Smoky Mts. Railroad

Meals

At least one pot-luck and one breakfast gathering

All other meals will be on your own, but feel free to create your own meal gathering with others at the campground, or as you gather for sightseeing excursions